

22 August 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 22 August 1969

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DDI briefed on the most recent Giant Scale SR-71 mission

[REDACTED]

Lehman for Godfrey reported that South Vietnam's Prime Minister Huong resigned upon finding that he was unable to re-organize the government. Lehman added that there was some anticipatory coverage of this event in the Weekly Review.

Abbot Smith reported on the status of NIE 11-8 and noted that the final draft may not be available for the Director's review until 27 August.

Bannerman recalled the crash of a helicopter in North Vietnam some two weeks ago (see Morning Meeting Minutes of 15 August). He added that it has now been determined that the crash was due to the pilot's having been killed by ground fire, and the remainder of the casualties seem to have been killed as a result of explosions on the aircraft.

* Bannerman briefed on the results of interviewing our [REDACTED] summer employees with respect to their attitudes toward the Agency and their disposition toward the Agency as a career. In general he noted that the results of the survey were favorable. The Director asked if we were to undertake this program again next summer. DDS explained that it is planned to launch the program again with dependents of employees under official or nominal official cover excluded. The Director indicated that he wished to review this decision. (Following the meeting the Executive Director asked that information be conveyed to the DDS requesting that the DDS raise this matter again in sufficient time to avoid any inconvenience to employee dependents growing out of a conflict with CSC testing.)

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Carver noted the resignation of Huong and observed that the principal question is who will be picked as his successor and went on to speculate that, if Minister of the Interior Khiem were chosen, there may be resulting severe political strife at the cabinet level.

Carver received the Director's concurrence in providing the Sullivan Committee with a copy of a recently completed paper assessing current Communist tactics in Vietnam.

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* Maury briefed on his conversation yesterday with Congressman Rodino who had received a call from [REDACTED] In response to Rodino's concern, Maury related that we had not touched the Green Beret case since 30 June. Houston suggested that, if [REDACTED] were to call the Agency as anticipated, the call should be referred to him. The Director concurred. In response to the Director's question, Maury reported that he anticipates Congress will reconvene shortly after Labor Day. In order to arrange for the Director's early appearance before appropriate committees on the Hill, he asked Maury to find out where Senator Russell could be reached in order to lay this on. The Director also discussed the timing of Maury's briefing of Carl Marcy. Houston commented that with respect to the charges against Green Beret personnel, he found it very difficult to see how a court-martial could be avoided.

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* Bross reported that Pat Coyne has requested a draft copy of NIE 11-8. After considerable discussion the Director asked that Bross wait until 25 August to respond to this request and then to do so in a manner which still leaves us the option to not provide the draft as requested.

[REDACTED]

DDP briefed on the items he intends to cover with Dr. Kissinger in San Clemente.

The Director asked General Cushman to attend the meeting of the Verification Committee in San Clemente on Friday, 29 August.

*The Director noted Blandford's request of Maury to find rather immediate employment here for [REDACTED] The Director asked the DDS to follow the normal procedure, but utilize a senior staff member as the interviewer and take other appropriate steps to insure that this case is handled in a highly professional manner.

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L. K. White

*Extracted and sent to action officer

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